

MICHIGAN JUVENILE JUSTICE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM (MJJAS) FISCAL YEAR 2021 STATISTICS AND FISCAL YEAR 2022 TRAINING PLAN

Overview

Since 2013, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Children's Services Agency (CSA) Division of Juvenile Justice (JJ) has been providing certification training for administering the Michigan Juvenile Justice Assessment System (MJJAS) to private, contracted juvenile justice residential treatment facility workers, MDHHS field workers and supervisors, and to juvenile court personnel. More than 700 juvenile justice staff have been trained. This report reviews MJJAS training activities that occurred in fiscal year 2021 and details the plan for MJJAS training in fiscal year 2022.

Background

The MJJAS is a research-based, validated assessment instrument, also known as the Ohio Youth Assessment System © (OYAS), developed by the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI). The MDHHS contracts with UCCI to utilize the MJJAS. The MJJAS is a structured decision-making assessment tool which identifies the likelihood a youth will participate in future delinquent behavior and helps inform placement and treatment decisions. When used over time, scores show changes in risk level based upon changes in a youth's behavioral profile and life situation.

The MJJAS assessment system is based on research involving 2,457 youth in Ohio across all counties, courts, and rehabilitative programs of the juvenile justice system. The MJJAS was incorporated into Michigan's public juvenile justice residential treatment facilities through a contract with UCCI as part of the treatment planning process by MDHHS in 2010. Since 2013, MJJAS is the risk assessment tool used by MDHHS public and private, contracted juvenile justice residential treatment facilities.

In addition, several county juvenile courts use the MJJAS and/or have staff certified to administer the MJJAS instruments. To date, staff from 40 county juvenile courts have been trained in the counties of: Alcona, Alpena, Bay, Berrien, Benzie, Calhoun, Charlevoix, Crawford, Dickinson, Gratiot, Grand Traverse, Ionia, Iosco, Iron, Isabella, Kalkaska, Kent, Lapeer, Lake, Lenawee, Livingston, Manistee, Marquette, Menominee, Mecosta, Missaukee, Midland, Montcalm, Monroe, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oakland, Oceana, Ogemaw, Otsego, Roscommon, Saginaw, Sanilac, Shiawassee, Wexford, and Washtenaw.

MJJAS training must be provided by UCCI-certified trainers. Currently, MDHHS trainers are certified to present MJJAS training.

Summary of Fiscal Year 2021 Training Activities

Eight MJJAS trainings were held statewide as listed below. All trainings were moved to a virtual platform due to state in-person meeting restrictions related to COVID-19. Either

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initially or upon re-testing, 64 of 64 were certified to administer the MJJAS risk assessment instruments.

End User Training Location and Attendance:

Training Date	Training Venue	Number of Trainees
October 2020	Virtual	6
December, 2021	Virtual	12
January 2021	Virtual	9
February 2021	Virtual	4
March, 2021	Virtual	9
April, 2021	Virtual	8
May, 2021	Virtual	0
June, 2021	Virtual	0
August 2021	Virtual	7
September 2021	Virtual	9
Total Trainees		64

Trainee demographics:

- MDHHS field services and state operated residential treatment facilities: 42
- Private, contracted residential treatment facilities: 0
- County courts: 17
- Interns or other: 5

Training Evaluations:

Trainees participated in an optional brief survey to assess training value. There were 56 respondents. Of the 56 respondents, 47 were “very satisfied” with overall quality of the training, and 9 were “satisfied” with the training. All respondents stated that the training provided the essential information and instruction needed to administer the risk assessment instruments and enabled them to conduct the MJJAS risk assessment independently, without further assistance.

Fiscal Year 2022 Training Plan

MJJAS training sessions for fiscal year 2022 are listed below. Maximum enrollment for each two-day session is generally limited to 20 participants per session. Training attendees complete two full, consecutive days of training to be eligible for certification testing.

- December 1-2, 2021 – Virtual
- February 3-4, 2022 – Virtual

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- March 16-17, 2022 – Virtual
- May 11-12, 2022 – Virtual
- July 13-14, 2022 – TBA
- August 4-5, 2022 – Virtual
- September 7-8, 2022 – Virtual
- October 26-27, 2022 – TBA